



STATE OF MAINE  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
23 STATE HOUSE STATION  
AUGUSTA, MAINE  
04333-0023

JOHN ELIAS BALDACCI  
GOVERNOR

SUSAN A. GENDRON  
COMMISSIONER

**Exhibit #III.A.**

**TO:** Members of the State Board of Education

**FROM:** Susan A. Gendron, Commissioner\*

**DATE:** July 9, 2008

**SUBJECT:** Major Capital School Construction Program; *Site Approval Consideration*;  
SAD #22 Hampden, New 9-12 Hampden Academy Construction Project.

**STATEMENT OF FACT**

Superintendent Richard Lyons requests that the State Board of Education approve a site in Hampden, Maine, for a new 9-12 Hampden Academy. The new school will replace the existing Hampden Academy.

SAD #22 conducted a thorough site search. Thirteen sites were considered and decreased to four sites based on location, topography, traffic and environmental criteria. The site selected rated highest using a 26-criteria site selection process by the Building Committee.

The selected site is presently owned by SAD #22 and is adjacent to SAD #22 properties that house an elementary school, a middle school, and the District central office. It is across the street from the existing Hampden Academy.

The District does propose purchasing a 3.5 acre parcel which is known as the MDOT Right of Way. This property will serve as the main entrance for the proposed new high school.

SAD #22 has submitted a complete Site Approval submission to the Department of Education. The proposed site meets all the needed criteria to be an excellent high school site. The recent "straw poll" found unanimous public support for the site.

***Property Purchase Information***

3.5 acres – Option to Purchase – in process with the Maine Department of Transportation  
Appraisal #1: \$315,000  
Appraisal #2: \$320,000  
State subsidized purchase: \$317,500  
Local Only cost: \$-0-

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***Project Information***

Project: SAD #22 Hampden Academy replacement  
Superintendent: Richard Lyons  
Principal: Ruey Yehle  
Architect: Charles Earley, WBRC Architects  
Civil Engineer: Ray Bolduc  
Land Purchase: 3.5 acres

**CONSTRUCTION COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION**

At its meeting on June 24, 2008, the Construction Committee gained consensus to recommend that the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to SAD #22 for a new Hampden Academy construction project located in Hampden, Maine.

**COMMISSIONER RECOMMENDATION**

The Commissioner recommends the State Board of Education grant Site Approval to SAD 22 for construction of a new 9-12 Hampden Academy in Hampden, Maine, under the provisions of Chapter 61, Rules for Major Capital School Construction Projects.

\*Prepared by the School Facilities Services Team